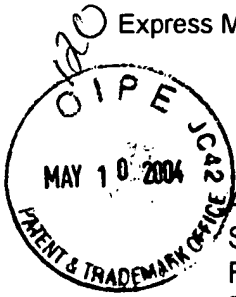


5-12-04

IFU RCE
\$ 1753



Express Mail Label No. **EV 337 198 724 US**

Attorney Docket No. 50225-8066.US07

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Manz *et al.*
Serial No.: 09/780,230
Filing Date: February 9, 2001
Examiner: Starsiak, John S.
Group Art Unit: 1753
Confirmation No. 8918
For: METHOD FOR CONTROLLING SAMPLE
INTRODUCTION IN MICROCOLUMN SEPARATION
TECHNIQUES AND SAMPLING DEVICE

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. §132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application,
filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

**Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. §1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114**

- ☒ Enclosed
- ☒ Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
 - ☒ Petition for 1-Month Time Extension
 - ☒ Check in the amount of \$440.00 covering fees due.

2. **Miscellaneous**

- ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of _____ months.

(Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required)

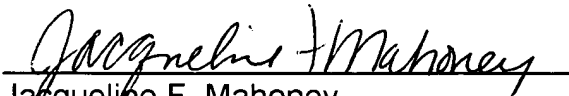
05/13/2004 RHEBRIGHT 00000086 09780230 385.00 00
01 FC:2801

3. **Fees** *The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when RCE is filed.*

- ☒ A check in the amount of \$440.00 is enclosed to cover the following fees
 - ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR §1.17(e) - \$385.00
 - ☒ 1-month Time Extension fee under 37 CFR §1.17(a)(1) - \$55.00
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment in fees (or credit any overpayments) to Deposit Account No. 50-2207.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 10, 2004


Jacqueline F. Mahoney
Registration No. 48,390

Correspondence Address:

Customer No. 22918
(650) 838-4410



Express Mail Label No. EV 337 198 724 US

Attorney Docket No. 50225-8066.US07

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Manz *et al.*

SERIAL No.: 09/780,230

FILED: February 9, 2001

FOR: METHOD FOR CONTROLLING SAMPLE
INTRODUCTION IN MICROCOLUMN SEPARATION
TECHNIQUES AND SAMPLING DEVICE

EXAMINER: Starsiak, John S.

ART UNIT: 1753

CONFIRMATION No: 8918

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed September 9, 2003 and an Advisory Action dated April 8, 2004 in the above-identified application.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.